

City of Newburgh

Press Release

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For immediate release
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Richard F. Herbek Appointed City Manager

At their January 23, 2012 meeting, by unanimous decision, the City Council approved the appointment of Richard F. Herbek as City Manager for a one-year term. Mr. Herbek has served as Acting City Manager since September 1, 2009. The City of Newburgh has been without a permanent City Manager since January, 2009.

Mr. Herbek has a Masters of Public Administration from Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service and a BA from St. Lawrence University. His previous municipal leadership experience includes 10 years as Deputy Village Manager of Scarsdale and 27 years as Village Manager of Croton-on-Hudson, NY. He is an active member of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and previously served as Regional Vice President of the ICMA Board for the Northeast Region. He also held office as President, First and Second Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer of the New York State City/County Management Association.

Other professional affiliations include the Municipal Administrators Association of New York Metropolitan Area, where he served at various times as President, Vice President, and Secretary Treasurer; and he was also the former Chair of the Urban County Council and the Northern Tier Coalition of Westchester County.

A Vietnam veteran, Mr. Herbek retired from the Army Reserves in 1994 with the rank of Colonel.

When he first took the position as Newburgh's Acting City Manager, he found the City in dismal financial straits, unable to make payroll or pay bills, including health insurance.

"Since I first arrived, my priorities have been to stabilize the City's finances and chart a course to recovery, and despite radical cuts to the City's work force, to continue to provide the best possible services to our residents," said Mr. Herbek. "We have made significant progress in these areas, and many others. I am very pleased to have the opportunity to continue working with the City Council and our dedicated department heads and staff to continue to move the City in a positive direction."

Mayor Judy Kennedy commented, “As Mayor of the City of Newburgh, I am committed to working with Mr. Herbek to help this City realize its real potential. With a strong Council and a seasoned City Manager, we are dedicated to ensuring that the city is financially stable and that this government is proactively supporting business growth and improving the quality of life for its citizens.”